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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/682,622	09/28/2001	Daniel Canon	9D-RG-19584	2283

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EXAMINER

COCKS, JOSIAH C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3743

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2003 5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/682,622

Applicant(s)

CANON, DANIEL

Examiner

Josiah C. Cocks

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The formal drawings filed 1/18/02 are accepted by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art Figure 3 in view of *Six et al.* (US 4,519,771) (cited by applicant)

Applicant's prior art Figure 3 shows an ignition module (56) for a flame burner (22) and method of installing such an ignition module to an electrical system wherein the electrical system includes phase (72) and neutral (76) conductors and a ground conductor (78) with the phase conductor connected to the first input (80) of the ignition module and the ground conductor connected to the second input (82) of the ignition module (see hatched line connection at junction box). Applicant's prior art Figure 3 also shows an AC power source (42), and a junction box (72).

Applicant's prior art Figure 3 does not show the use of an isolation transformer and the details of this transformer.

Six et al. teaches an ignition module (25) for a flame burner (1) and a method of installing the module to an electrical system in the same field of endeavor as Applicant's prior art Figure 3 wherein *Six et al.* teaches the use of an isolation transformer (6) having primary winding (6a) and secondary winding (6b) wherein the isolation transformer is arranged to isolate the part of the circuit comprising the burner and igniter from the AC supply source (see col. 1, line 63 through col. 2, line 12). *Six et al.* also discloses that it is specifically desirable that the conductor (3) connecting the isolation transformer, the ignition module, and the burner be electrically grounded (see col. 3, lines 34-36).

Therefore, in regard to claims 1-12, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify applicant's prior art Figure 3 to incorporate the isolation transformer of *Six et al.* as this isolation transformer is included to correct the potential for undesirable disruption noted by applicant (see applicant's specification page 6). *Six et al.* notes that his system is an improvement over the prior art as a distinction is not necessary between the neutral conductor and phase conductor of the AC supply source (see *Six et al.*, col. 1, lines 41-44). Further, the incorporation of the isolation transformer is desirable as this arrangement provides simple to the control and safety elements of the system in a way that reduces costs and reduces the number of elements that make up the system (see *Six et al.*, col. 1, lines 50-59 and col. 2, lines 13-23).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. *Ikegami et al.*, *del Valle*, *Miyanaka et al.*, *Gaiffier*, and WO

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81/01605 are included to further show the state of the art concerning ignition circuits with transformers.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Josiah Cocks whose telephone number is (703) 305-0450. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennett, can be reached at (703) 308-0101. The fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-7764 for regular communications and (703) 305-3463 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

jcc
April 9, 2003


JOSIAH COCKS
PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3743